supply of gas which is being produced in the same district, Mehsana of Gujarat; and

(d) in the recent meeting with Petroleum Ministry whether and what solution was reached between the parties?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Dudhsagar Dairy in Mehsana District of Gujarat State has made a representation to the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for increasing their gas supplies.

(c) Dudhsagar Dairy is supplies gas, along with the other customers, from Shobahasan gas field in Gujarat. As against a total allocation of 96,600 standard cubic metres per day (SCMD) gas from this field, the availability at present is only about 65,000 SCMD. As against their contracted quantity of 32, 500 SCMD, Dudhsagar Dairy received an average gas supply of 32,949 SCMD during January 2006. It has not been found possible to accede to their request to increase the supply, considering the overall shortage of gas supply form Shobhasan field.

(d) In a meeting held on 6.2.2006 in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, it was decided that ONGC would work out the feasibility of diverting some gas from Nandasan field to the Shobhasan field for supplying to M/s. Dudhsagar Dairy.

Shortage of Commanders in Alliance Air

*229. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of commanders and co-pilots in Alliance Air as on 1st March, 2005 was made up;

(b) the vacancies of commanders and co-pilots in Alliance Air as on date; and

(c) what strenuous efforts are being made to fill up the present backlog of vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The vacancies of Commanders and co-pilots in Alliance Air based on 7 B-737 aircraft and 4 ATR aircraft as on 1st March, 2006 are 24 and 11 respectively.

(c) Alliance Air advertised in the newspapers on 14th December 2005 for the post of Commanders and Co-Pilots. Some applications for the post of Co-Pilots have been received but no application has been received for

the post of Commanders. Therefore, Alliance Air is making efforts to meet the shortage of Co-Pilots by recruiting pilots from within India and Commanders by recruiting expatriate pilots.

Delhi as a Major Tourist Destination for Commonwealth Games

*230 SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken by Government to showcase Delhi as a major tourist destination especially in view of the upcoming Commonwealth Games in 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism has been assisting the State Governments for the development of infrastructure under its scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development of Tourist Circuits and Destination based on the receipt of the project propsals, merit of the proposal, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

It has been decided to focus on both development of infrastucture and promotion and marketing of India as a tourism destination for the upcoming Commonwealth Games. The strategy in this regard involves up-gradation of tourist infrastructure of Delhi and surrounding areas and augmentation of tourist accommodation facilities in the region. The Action Plan includes:

(i) Improvement of infrastructure around heritage sites/tourist spots;

(ii) Development/Up-gradation of civic amenities at the historical sites and tourists spots;

(iii) Improvement and up-gradation of connectivity between Airport to City, hotels, stadia and tourist spots;

(iv) Organization of evening entertainment/cultural programmes;

(v) Installation of multi-lingual signages;

(vi) Compilation of data bank of guides/escorts;

(vii) Organization of art/craft exhibitions.